

From: Todd Hallenbeck [THallenbeck@dfg.ca.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2007 1:36 PM
To: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov
Subject: [MLPA Comments] A few thoughts on Ecotrusts Surveys

Hi, I attended the meeting on Wednesday and must say that i was really impressed by the scope and methodology of Ecotrust's proposed study. Upon considering the proposal a little more I had two suggestions:

1) I think that there should be some added weight to the bottom trawling fleets relative importance. I don't think that draggers have a special priority but I think that those areas are doubly not suited for MPA's because of the extent of the disturbance caused by the fishing gear. The same consideration should be given to any gear types that have a direct impact on the ocean floor. I think this would help the stakeholders properly identify areas of the fishing ground that probably should not be closed off because they have been disturbed for such a long period of time.

2) Instead of asking fishermen to act as liason's (with possible bias) I would suggest that harbormasters serve in this capacity. It seems as though they already serve this role. They are at the port on a daily basis, they know what boats are in the slips, and they should have some idea about the fishermen fishing those boats and using their ports. I have had great experience with both Hedley Prince (SF) and John Draper (HMB) and found them to both be very knowledgable about the fishing activity occuring in their ports. Plus, they don't have direct financial ties to the outcome.

Just a few thoughts, I would love to hear any response to this.

Regards,
Todd Hallenbeck